
By: **Delegates Burns, Vallario, Doory, Montague, and Dobson**
Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2001
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Evidence - Negligence - Prepayment of Fine or Forfeiture of Collateral**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that evidence of a payment of a fine without an
4 appearance for trial or a forfeiture of collateral, in cases in which certain traffic
5 violations were charged, is admissible as evidence of negligence in a civil action
6 arising out of a vehicle accident in which the traffic violations were charged;
7 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the
8 admissibility of evidence of a payment of a fine without an appearance for trial
9 or a forfeiture of collateral in vehicle accident cases under certain
10 circumstances.

11 BY adding to
12 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
13 Section 10-313
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 10-313.

20 IN A CIVIL ACTION ARISING OUT OF A VEHICLE ACCIDENT IN WHICH A
21 VIOLATION OF THE MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW OR OF ARTICLE 27, § 388, § 388A, OR §
22 388B OF THE CODE WAS CHARGED, EVIDENCE OF A PAYMENT OF A FINE WITHOUT AN
23 APPEARANCE FOR TRIAL OR A FORFEITURE OF COLLATERAL ON THE CHARGE IS
24 ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE OF NEGLIGENCE.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
26 construed only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect
27 on or application to any cause of action arising before the effective date of this Act.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
2 effect October 1, 2001.